



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For Information Contact Public Affairs
HARRIET BERNICK
Telephone: (602) 514-7736
Pager: (602) 356-0004

PEORIA MAN SENTENCED TO 8 YEARS IN PRISON FOR THE SALE OF 4 GRENADES

PHOENIX, ARIZONA –Paul K. Charlton, U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona, and Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announced that on July 7, 2003, Jesse Jaquez, date of birth August 29, 1974, of Peoria, Arizona, was sentenced to 8 years incarceration and ordered to \$2,300 in restitution for four (4) counts of Possession of Unregistered Destructive Devices (Grenades) in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 5861(d) and one (1) count of Interference with a Federal Officer in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 111(a), by United States District Judge Paul G. Rosenblatt, in Phoenix, Arizona.

Jaquez plead guilty to the above-referenced charges on March 11, 2003. At the time of his guilty plea, Jaquez admitted to selling a total of 10 re-manufactured "baseball" and "pineapple" military type grenades to two Phoenix Police Department undercover officers on March 24, 2001. Jaquez also sold the undercover officers a stolen pick-up truck at the same time.

On August 16, 2002, Special Agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives attempted to arrest Jaquez on the above referenced charges, but he fled after Special Agents with the Bureau

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of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) and the Phoenix Police Department officers announced their presence and the warrant for his arrest. Jaquez then stole a car and backed it up in the direction of the agent as the agent continued to order Jaquez to stop and submit to arrest. The agent, fearing immediate bodily harm, fired his duty weapon at the car as Jaquez backed toward the agent. Neither Jaquez or the agent were injured. Unfortunately, Jaquez was able to escape the scene in the stolen car. Jaquez was subsequently arrested by numerous law enforcement agencies working together in San Diego, California, on August 24, 2002. At the time of sentencing, Jaquez agreed to pay \$2,300 in restitution to Maricopa County, Arizona; \$2,000 was for the undercover funds used to purchase the 10 grenades and \$300 was for similar funds used to purchase the stolen pick-up truck.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Phoenix Police Department, U.S. Marshal's Service and the San Diego Police Department.

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